



ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Method of verifying the authenticity of a security document (1), the security document including a first at least partially transparent portion (7, 8) and an optical projection element (9) within or superposed with the first at least partially transparent portion (7, 8), the optical projection element (9) acting to transform a light beam (10a) passing from a light beam source through said first at least partially transparent portion (7, 8) into a patterned beam (11) of selected design, the method including the steps of: positioning the security document such that the light beam is transmitted through the first at least partially transparent portion and the patterned beam is projected onto a viewing surface (14), and verifying the presence of a patterned image by the impingement of the patterned beam on the viewing surface (14).

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